

A low-angle, close-up photograph of the nose and wing of a blue Airbus aircraft. The nose cone is highly reflective, mirroring the sky and clouds. The wing extends from the bottom left towards the center, with a large engine visible. The background is a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds.

NTSB Forum

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Emerging Flight Data & Locator Technology

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Airbus record on flight recorders recovery

- Aircraft wreckage and recorder recovery:

Longest lead time is flight AF447 accident.

Airbus did fully support the sea searches activities (financially and logistically)

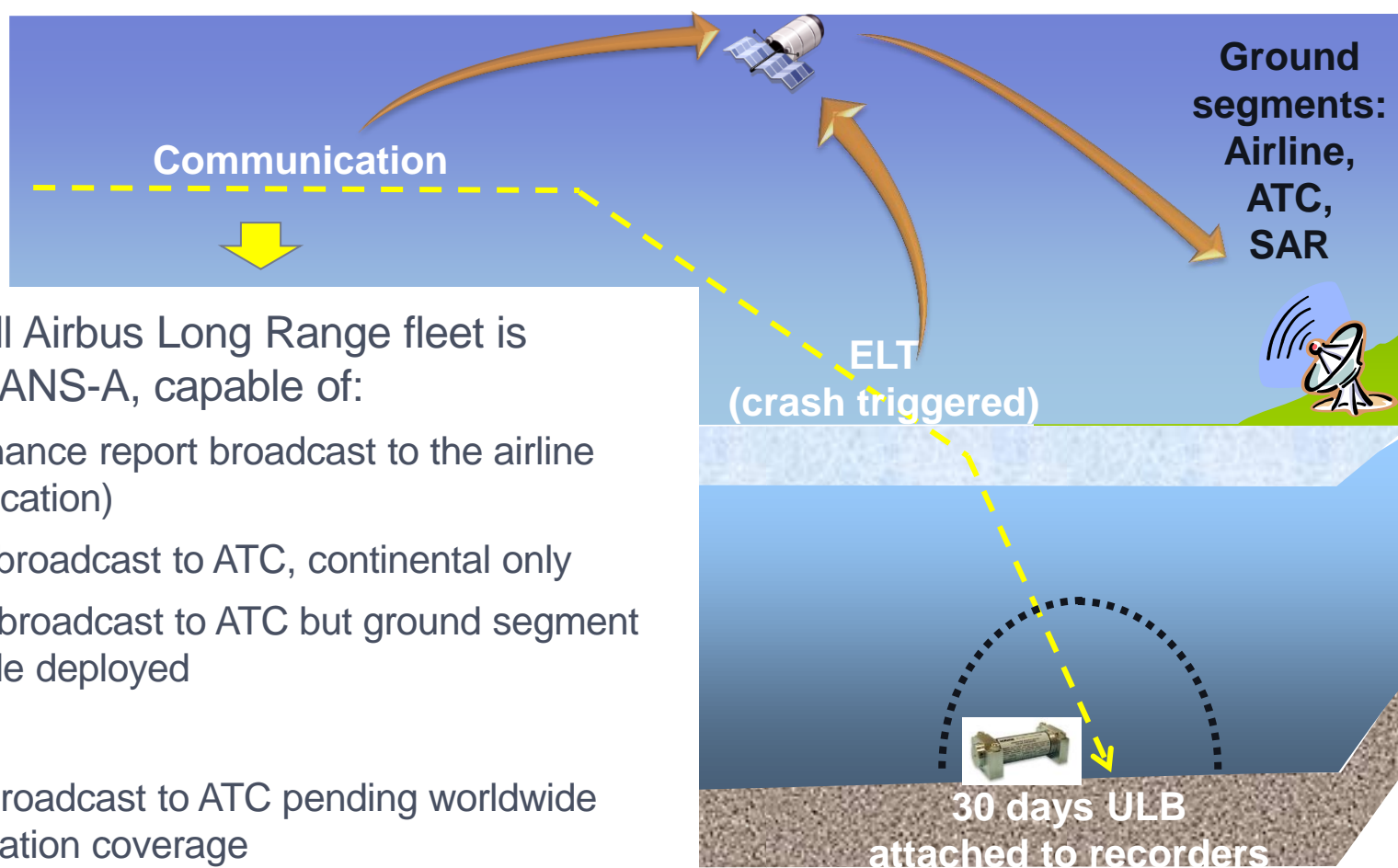
Recorders finally recovered on all events

- After AF447 accident, Airbus pro-actively participates to all international activities to improve the industry standards

Wreckage localization	Immediately after accident	All except:
	Between few hours and few days	3
	More than few days	1 (2years)
Recorders recovery	Quickly after wreckage	All except:
	Few days after wreckage	3
	More than few days	1
Recorders condition (Data + Voice)	With good data	All except:
	Damaged but decoded	2
	Damaged	1
	Failed before accident	1

Current aircraft localization solutions

Airlines can broadcast periodic reports including aircraft position:



Today, almost all Airbus Long Range fleet is equipped with FANS-A, capable of:

- AOC or Maintenance report broadcast to the airline (software modification)
- ADS-B: Report broadcast to ATC, continental only
- ADS-C: Report broadcast to ATC but ground segment not yet worldwide deployed

Next step:

- ADS-B: report broadcast to ATC pending worldwide satellite constellation coverage

ADS-B / C: Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast / Contract

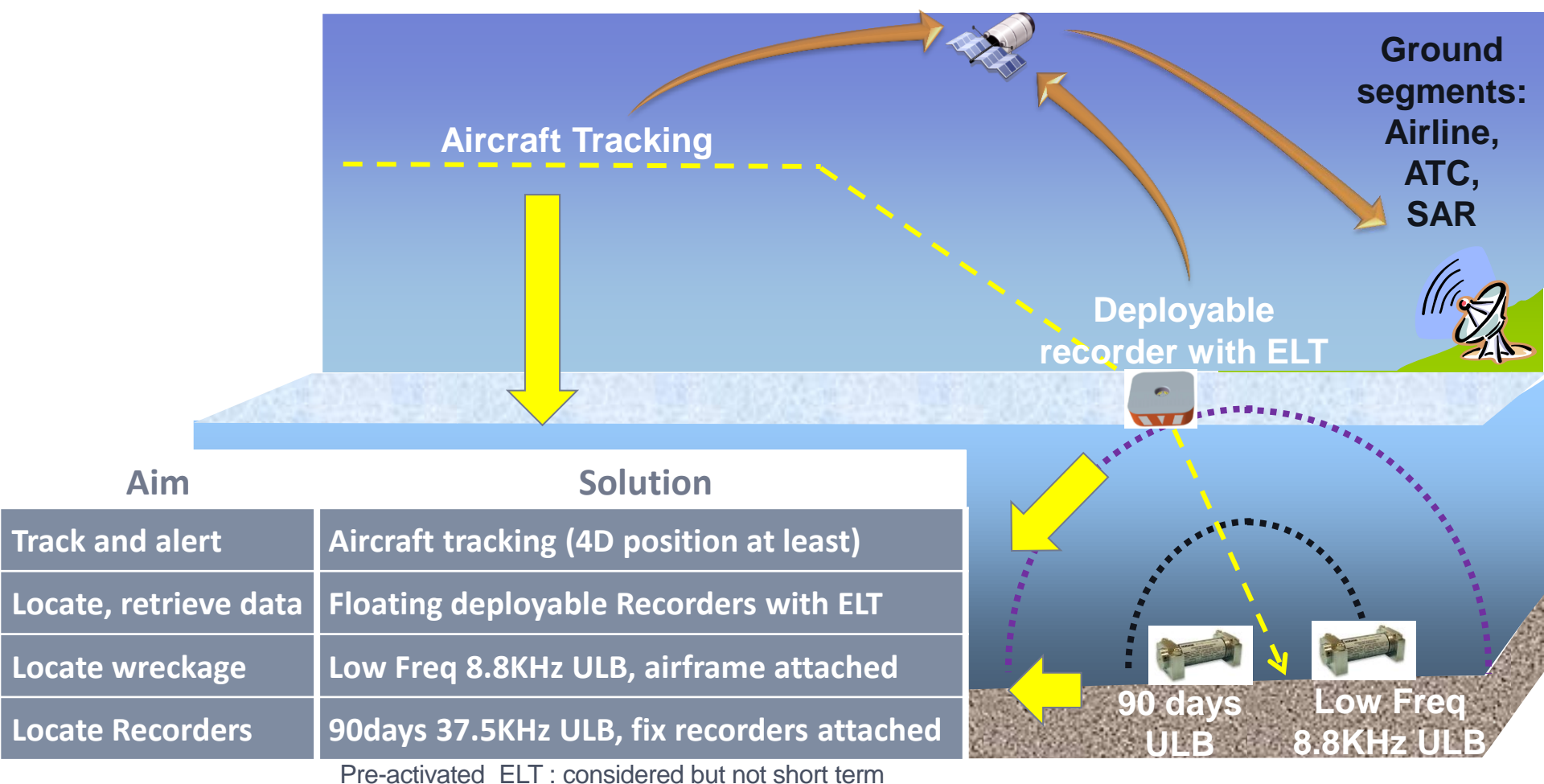
AOC : Airline Operational Communication

FANS : Future Air Navigation System

ELT : Emergency Locator Transmitter

ULB: Underwater Locator Beacon

Short/medium term solutions to improve aircraft localization



Potential short / medium term solutions for Airbus programs

Solutions		A320 family	A330 A340 family	A350 family	A380	Aim
Aircraft tracking	Retrofit	●	●	●	●	✓ Permanent tracking
	Forward-Fit	●	●	●	●	✓ Early warning
2 combined data/voice recorders, one being deployable with ELT	Retrofit					✓ Accident location
	Forward-Fit			●	●	✓ Retrieve data
Low Frequency ULB attached to airframe	Retrofit	*	●	●	●	✓ Wreckage location
	Forward-Fit	*	●	●	●	
90days ULB attached to fix recorders	Retrofit	●	●	●	●	✓ Recorder location
	Forward-Fit	●	●	●	●	

*

If operated over water

Thank-you